<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>:

The following is a complete listing of the claims in this application, reflects all changes currently being made to the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and all earlier listings of the claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A network device managing apparatus comprising:

<u>first</u> receiving means for receiving a ~~search~~ request ~~of network devices~~ and identification information from a data processing apparatus;

<u>first</u> list forming means for forming a list of the network devices <u>according to the request received by said first receiving means</u>;

holding means for holding the identification information received by said <u>first</u> receiving means and the list formed by said <u>first</u> list forming means in association with each other;

~~extracting means for, if the search request and the identification information are~~ ~~received by said receiving means, comparing the list held by said holding means in association~~ ~~with said identification information with the list formed by said list forming means after said~~ ~~search request was received by said receiving means and extracting network devices which have~~ ~~newly been found;~~

<u>second receiving means for receiving a request and the identification</u> <u>information from said data processing apparatus, after the list formed by said first list forming</u> <u>means was held by said holding means</u>;

<u>second list forming means for forming a list of the network devices according to</u>

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the request received by said second receiving means;

acquiring means for acquiring, from the lists held by said holding means, the list formed by said first list forming means associated with the identification information received by said second receiving means;

comparing means for comparing the list acquired by said acquiring means with the list formed by said second list forming means;

data forming means for forming data ~~which emphasizes the network devices~~ ~~extracted by said extracting means and which is used to display the list of the network devices~~ based on the list formed by said second list forming means, and specifying the network devices not included in the list acquired by said acquiring means, such specification being used to display the list on which the specified network devices are emphasized; and

data transmitting means for transmitting the data formed by said data forming means to said data processing apparatus.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) A network device managing apparatus which ~~can communicate with network devices and a data processing apparatus~~, compris[[ing]]es:

first receiving means for receiving a ~~state~~ request ~~of the network devices~~ and identification information from [[said]] a data processing apparatus;

first list forming means for ~~obtaining a state of each of said network devices and~~ forming a list showing [[the]] respective states of [[the]] network devices according to the request received by said first receiving means;

holding means for holding the identification information received by said first

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receiving means and the list formed by said <u>first</u> list forming means in association with each other;

~~extracting means for, if the state request and the identification information are~~ ~~received by said receiving means, comparing the list held by said holding means in association~~ ~~with said identification information with the list formed by said list forming means after said state~~ ~~request was received by said receiving means and extracting network devices whose states have~~ ~~been changed;~~

<u>second receiving means for receiving a request and the identification</u> <u>information from said data processing apparatus, after the list formed by said first list forming</u> <u>means was held by said holding means;</u>

<u>second list forming means for forming a list of the respective states of the</u> <u>network devices according to the request received by said second receiving means;</u>

<u>acquiring means for acquiring, from the lists held by said holding means, the list</u> <u>formed by said first list forming means associated with the identification information received by</u> <u>said second receiving means;</u>

<u>comparing means for comparing the list acquired by said acquiring means with</u> <u>the list formed by said second list forming means;</u>

data forming means for forming data which ~~emphasizes the network devices~~ ~~extracted by said extracting means~~ <u>specifies the network devices whose states have changed</u> and which is used to display the list ~~showing the states of the network devices~~ <u>on which the specified</u> <u>network devices are emphasized;</u> and

data transmitting means for transmitting the data formed by said data forming means to said data processing apparatus.

Claim 3. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said list indicates at least one of information regarding whether printing is possible or not and an error state.

Claim 4. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the data formed by said data forming means includes an emphasis mark to emphasize.

Claim 5. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the data formed by said data forming means includes instruction data for allowing a device icon of the data processing apparatus to be displayed in an updated state.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

a first receiving step of receiving a request and identification information from a data processing apparatus;

a first list forming step of forming a list of network devices in accordance with the request received in said first receiving step;

a holding step of holding the identification information received in said first receiving step and the list formed in said first list forming step in association with each other;

a second receiving step of receiving a request and identification information from the data processing apparatus;

a second list forming step of forming a list of network devices in accordance with the request received in said second receiving step;

~~a comparing step of comparing the list held in association with the same~~
~~identification information as the identification information received in said second receiving step~~
~~with the list formed in said second list forming step in order to extract network devices which~~
~~have newly been found;~~

<u>an acquiring step of acquiring, from the lists held in said holding step, the list</u>
<u>formed in said first list forming step associated with the identification information received in said</u>
<u>second receiving step;</u>

<u>a comparing step of comparing the list acquired in said acquiring step with the</u>
<u>list formed in said second list forming step;</u>

a data forming step of forming data ~~which emphasizes the newly found network~~
~~devices and which is used to display the list of the network devices~~ <u>based on the list formed in</u>
<u>said second list forming step and specifying the network devices not included in the list acquired</u>
<u>by said acquiring means, such specification being used to display the list on which the specified</u>
<u>network devices are emphasized</u>; and

a data transmitting step of transmitting the data formed in said data forming
step to said data processing apparatus.

Claim 7. (Original) A method according to claim 6, wherein the data formed in
said data forming step includes an emphasis mark to emphasize.

Claim 8. (Original) A method according to claim 6, wherein the data formed in
said data forming step includes instruction data for allowing a device icon of the data processing

apparatus to be displayed in an updated state.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

a first receiving step of receiving a request and identification information from a data processing apparatus;

a first list forming step of forming a list showing <u>respective</u> states of network devices in accordance with the request received in said first receiving step;

a holding step of holding the identification information received in said first receiving step and the list formed in said first list forming step in association with each other;

a second receiving step of receiving a request and identification information from the data processing apparatus;

a second list forming step of forming a list showing states of network devices in accordance with the request received in said second receiving step;

~~a comparing step of comparing the list held in association with the same identification information as the identification information received in said second receiving step with the list formed in said second list forming step in order to extract network devices whose states have been changed;~~

<u>an acquiring step of acquiring, from the lists held in said holding step, the list formed in said first list forming step associated with the identification information received in said second receiving step;</u>

<u>a comparing step of comparing the list acquired in said acquiring step with the list formed in said second list forming step;</u>

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a data forming step of forming data which ~~emphasizes the state-changed network devices~~ specifies the network devices whose states have changed and which is used to display the list ~~showing the states of the network devices~~ on which the specified network devices are emphasized; and

a data transmitting step of transmitting the data formed in said data forming step to said data processing apparatus.

Claim 10. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein said list indicates at least one of information regarding whether printing is possible or not and an error state.

Claim 11. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the data formed in said data forming step includes an emphasis mark to emphasize.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A program for controlling a computer so as to execute:

a first receiving step of receiving a request and identification information from a data processing apparatus;

a first list forming step of forming a list of network devices in accordance with the request received in said first receiving step;

a holding step of holding the identification information received in said first receiving step and the list formed in said first list forming step in association with each other;

a second receiving step of receiving a request and identification information

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from the data processing apparatus;

a second list forming step of forming a list of network devices in accordance with the request received in said second receiving step;

~~a comparing step of comparing the list held in association with the same identification information as the identification information received in said second receiving step with the list formed in said second list forming step in order to extract network devices which have newly been found;~~

an acquiring step of acquiring, from the lists held in said holding step, the list formed in said first list forming step associated with the identification information received in said second receiving step;

a comparing step of comparing the list acquired in said acquiring step with the list formed in said second list forming step;

a data forming step of forming data ~~which emphasizes the newly found network devices and which is used to display the list of the network devices~~ based on the list formed in said second list forming step, and specifying the network devices not included in the list acquired in said acquiring step, such specification being used to display the list on which the specified network devices are emphasized; and

a data transmitting step of transmitting the data formed in said data forming step to said data processing apparatus.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) A program for controlling a computer so as to execute:

a first receiving step of receiving a request and identification information from a data processing apparatus;

a first list forming step of forming a list showing <u>respective</u> states of network devices in accordance with the request received in said first receiving step;

a holding step of holding the identification information received in said first receiving step and the list formed in said first list forming step in association with each other;

a second receiving step of receiving a request and identification information from the data processing apparatus;

a second list forming step of forming a list showing states of network devices in accordance with the request received in said second receiving step;

~~a comparing step of comparing the list held in association with the same~~ ~~identification information as the identification information received in said second receiving step~~ ~~with the list formed in said second list forming step in order to extract network devices whose~~ ~~states have been changed;~~

<u>an acquiring step acquiring, from the lists held in said holding step, the list formed in said first list forming step associated with the identification information received by said second receiving means;</u>

<u>a comparing step of comparing the list acquired in said acquiring step with the list formed in said second list forming step;</u>

a data forming step of forming data which ~~emphasizes the state-changed~~ ~~network devices~~ <u>specifies the network devices whose states have changed</u> and which is used to display the list ~~showing the states of the network devices~~ <u>on which the specified network devices</u>

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are emphasized; and

a data transmitting step of transmitting the data formed in said data forming

step to said data processing apparatus.